



# The Civil War



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **Civil War Vocabulary**

- 1. Civil War**
- 2. Secede**
- 3. Virginia**
- 4. Monitor**
- 5. Emancipate**
- 6. Emancipation Proclamation**
- 7. Draft**
- 8. Income Tax**
- 9. Battle of Gettysburg**
- 10. Pickett's Charge**
- 11. Gettysburg Address**
- 12. Total War**
- 13. Appomattox Court House**

# **Notes**

## 1. The Election of 1860

- a. Democratic party split between the north and south
  - i. Northern Democrats nominated Stephen Douglas
  - ii. Southern Democrats nominated John Breckinridge
- b. Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln
- c. Lincoln won the election
  - i. Carried the north
  - ii. Did not appear on the ballots of 10 southern states
- d. Reaction in the south:
  - i. Southerners felt that the government was now against them
  - ii. Many felt that succession was the only way to save their way of life.
- e. Succession
  - i. On December 20, 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede.
  - ii. 10 others followed:
    - 1. Mississippi
    - 2. Florida
    - 3. Alabama
    - 4. Georgia
    - 5. Louisiana
    - 6. Texas
    - 7. Virginia
    - 8. Arkansas
    - 9. Tennessee
    - 10. North Carolina
  - iii. The 11 states formed the Confederate States of America
    - 1. Elected Jefferson Davis as President
    - 2. VP was Alexander Stephens

## 2. The Civil War Begins

- a. Fort Sumter
  - i. Jefferson Davis ordered Confederate soldiers to seize federal forts in the south
  - ii. Fort Sumter controlled the entrance of Charleston, SC.
  - iii. Major Robert Anderson refused to surrender the fort
  - iv. On April 12, 1861, Confederate soldiers opened fire on Ft. Sumter
    - 1. Those shots mark the beginning of the Civil War

### 3. Armies of the Civil War

#### a. Union Army (Army of the Potomac)

##### i. Reason for fighting

1. To save the union and keep the country intact.

##### ii. Leaders

1. President Abraham Lincoln
2. General George Meade
3. General Ulysses S. Grant

##### iii. Strengths

1. Population
  - a. 4X greater than the south
    - i. 6 million whites in the south
    - ii. 22 million in the north
2. Industry
  - a. 91% of nations factories to produce war goods
3. Railroads
  - a. 71% of nations railroad track could move soldiers and supplies quickly
4. Farmland
  - a. 75% of nations food production
5. Navy
  - a. Used its powerful navy to blockade the south

##### iv. Weaknesses

1. Northern armies had to invade the south and conquer huge areas of land in order to bring the south back into the Union.

#### b. Confederate Army (Rebels)

##### i. Reason for fighting

1. For independence to preserve way of life

##### ii. Leaders

1. President Jefferson Davis
2. General Robert E. Lee

##### iii. Strengths

1. Able to fight a defensive war
  - a. Knew the lay of the land
  - b. Did not need to invade the north to win
2. Military leadership
  - a. Many of the armies best officers were southerners
  - b. Many were experienced from fighting the Mexican War

#### iv. Weaknesses

1. Population was small and spread out
2. Very few factories to produce war goods
3. Very few railroads to move supplies and troops
4. Almost no navy

#### 4. Plans for Victory

##### a. Union

- i. At sea the Union used its navy to blockade southern ports
  1. Cut the south off from supplies of manufactured goods from Europe
- ii. In the East the Union invaded and tried to seize Richmond (capital of the Confederacy)
- iii. In the west the Union tried to capture control of the Mississippi River
  1. This would keep the Confederacy from using the river to supply troops
  2. Also cut the Confederacy in half

##### b. Confederacy

- i. Fight a defensive war until northerners tired of fighting and the war became unpopular.
- ii. Southerners counted on European money to fight the war.
  1. Were sure the England and France would be quick to recognize the south as an independent country to gain access to southern cotton.

#### 5. Key Battles & Events

##### a. Battle of Bull Run (Virginia)

- i. First major battle of the war
  1. In a haphazard and unorganized battle, Major Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson beat Union forces near D.C.
  2. Bull Run proved that this would not be a quick war

##### b. Battle of Shiloh (Tennessee)

- i. Union forces Under Grant fought a bloody 3 day battle that eventually allowed the Union to gain control of the Mississippi River.

##### c. CSS Virginia vs. USS Monitor

- i. The Union blockade cut off 90% of trade through southern ports
- ii. Confederacy created an ironclad ship called the CSS Virginia to try to push through the blockade
- iii. The Union responded by building its own ironclad, the USS Monitor
- iv. In 1862 the Virginia and the Monitor clashed off the coast of Virginia.
  1. After hours of battle, neither was able to damage the other and both retreated
  2. Several month later the Confederacy had to sink the Virginia to keep it from falling into Union Hands
  3. The Union eventually built over 50 ironclads

d. The Emancipation Proclamation

i. Freed Confederate slaves

1. Helped make the war more popular by turned the war into a moral issue of right and wrong
2. Weakened the Confederacy
  - a. Slaves that had acted as nurses and cooks and made war supplies left the Confederate Army.

e. Battle of Gettysburg (Pennsylvania)

- i. Robert E. Lee hoped to push into the North, take the Union by surprise and then swing south to capture D.C.
- ii. Lee's army met Meade's Union army at the small town of Gettysburg, Pa
- iii. A 3 day battle followed
  1. 50,000 soldiers were killed or wounded
    - a. 15,000 were killed when Lee ordered General George Pickett to charge the center of the Union's lines
  2. Gettysburg marked a turning point in the war
    - a. The south would never try to invade the north again
  3. In 1863 a ceremony was held to dedicate a cemetery to those who died in the battle of Gettysburg.
    - a. Lincoln Attended and delivered the G Gettysburg Address.

f. A change in leadership and strategy

- i. After Gettysburg, Lincoln replaced Gen. George Meade with Gen. Ulysses S. Grant as head of the Union Army.
  1. Lincoln did not believe that Meade was aggressive enough to win the war.
  2. Lincoln thought that Meade missed a valuable opportunity to end the war at Gettysburg.
    - a. Meade did not pursue Lee and his army when they retreated.
- ii. Lincoln believed that Grant's aggressive strategy, known as "total war", would be able to bring the war to an end in the Unions favor.
  1. Total war was designed to destroy the south's ability to fight.
  2. Grant ordered his generals to destroy food, farm equipment, railroad tracks, and anything else that might aid the Confederacy during the war.
  3. Total war impacted civilians just as much as soldiers.
- iii. Examples of total war
  1. Sheridan in Shenandoah
    - a. Gen. Philip Sheridan was ordered to clear the fertile Shenandoah valley
    - b. During the process, Sheridan's troops took what they could use and burned the rest. (ex: 2,000+ barns were burned)

## 2. Sherman's March to the Sea

- a. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman was ordered to capture Atlanta, GA and then march to the coast.
- b. During the march, Sherman's troops destroyed everything in their path.
- c. Examples:
  - i. Much of Atlanta was burned
  - ii. Barns, homes, bridges, and factories were burned
  - iii. Livestock was killed
  - iv. Railroads were tore up
    - 1. Ties were burned
    - 2. Rails were heated and twisted to uselessness.

## g. Surrender at Appomattox

- i. Union forces under Grant had laid siege to Lee's army at Petersburg, Va for 9 months.
- ii. Lee was eventually forced to surrender at the nearby town of Appomattox.
  - 1. Lee officially surrendered to Grant at the Appomattox Court House
    - a. Grant offered generous terms
      - i. Officers could keep pistols
      - ii. Soldiers could keep horses which they would need to farm
      - iii. All Confederate soldiers were allowed to return home.

## 6. Results of the Civil War

- a. Over 610,00 soldiers were killed
  - i. 360,000 Union Soldiers
  - ii. 250,000 Confederate Soldiers
- b. Cost of the war was \$20 billion
- c. Slavery was ended
  - i. The Emancipation Proclamation ended slavery in the south.
  - ii. In 1865, the 13th Amendment outlawed slavery in the United States
- d. The federal government grew stronger and state governments grew weaker.
- e. A new sense of nationality
  - i. Prior to the war- "These United States"
  - ii. Post Civil War- "The United States"



# **Resources**